

A stylized illustration of a house with a red roof and a red door. A large fire with orange and yellow flames is burning on the left side of the house. A large grey arrow points from the top left towards the house.

Sterling Heights Fire Department **Home Inspection Program**



CITY OF
Sterling Heights
FIRE

FIRE HEADQUARTERS
TEL 586.446.2950 | FAX 586.726.7007
firedepartment@sterling-heights.net | www.sterling-heights.net
41625 Ryan Road | Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3945

Don't Wait — Check the Date!

Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years



Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 8-14, 2017

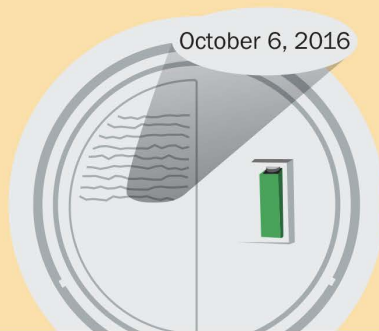
Age matters when it comes to your smoke alarms.
Check the manufacture dates on your smoke alarms today!

1

Remove the smoke alarm from the wall or ceiling.



October 6, 2016

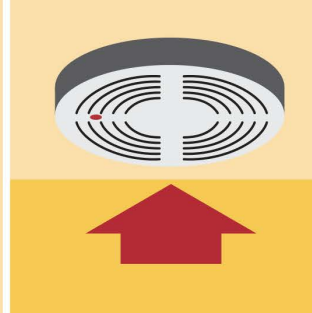


2

Look at the back of the alarm for the date of manufacture.

3

Smoke alarms should be replaced 10 years from the date of manufacture.



4

Put the alarm back on the ceiling or wall if it is less than 10 years old.



A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.



Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.



If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.



Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms. For the best protection, make sure all smoke alarms are interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.



Call the fire department from a cellphone or a neighbor's phone. Stay outside until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.

For more information about smoke alarms, visit usfa.fema.gov and firepreventionweek.org.

U.S. Fire Administration



FEMA



NFPA is the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922



Dear Residents:

The Sterling Heights Fire Department spends a significant amount of time and resources conducting inspections in businesses in the City of Sterling Heights to ensure life safety issues are addressed. However, your Fire Department has never conducted inspections in residential properties and does not have the resources to do so. The problem is that a majority of fire deaths across the nation occur in the home. In fact, in 2015 alone, there were more than 500,000 fires in residential structures in the United States that resulted in 2,685 deaths, 13,000 injuries and over \$10 billion in damage. That is why it is so important for each family to take fire safety steps on your own.

The Sterling Heights Fire Department wants to help. This document was developed to provide you with step-by-step instructions for conducting a fire inspection of your home, and to develop a fire escape plan with your family, in case there is a fire. The Fire Department Website will also include helpful information about different aspects of the home fire inspection and fire escape plan.

Protecting your family is incentive enough, but the Fire Department, working with the Sterling Heights Chamber of Commerce and local businesses, will also establish an annual drawing of exciting prizes for those households that complete the forms. Please submit a copy of the Fire Inspection and Fire Escape plan to the Fire Department by September 15 of each year to qualify for the drawing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris Martin'.

Chris Martin, EFO

Fire Chief

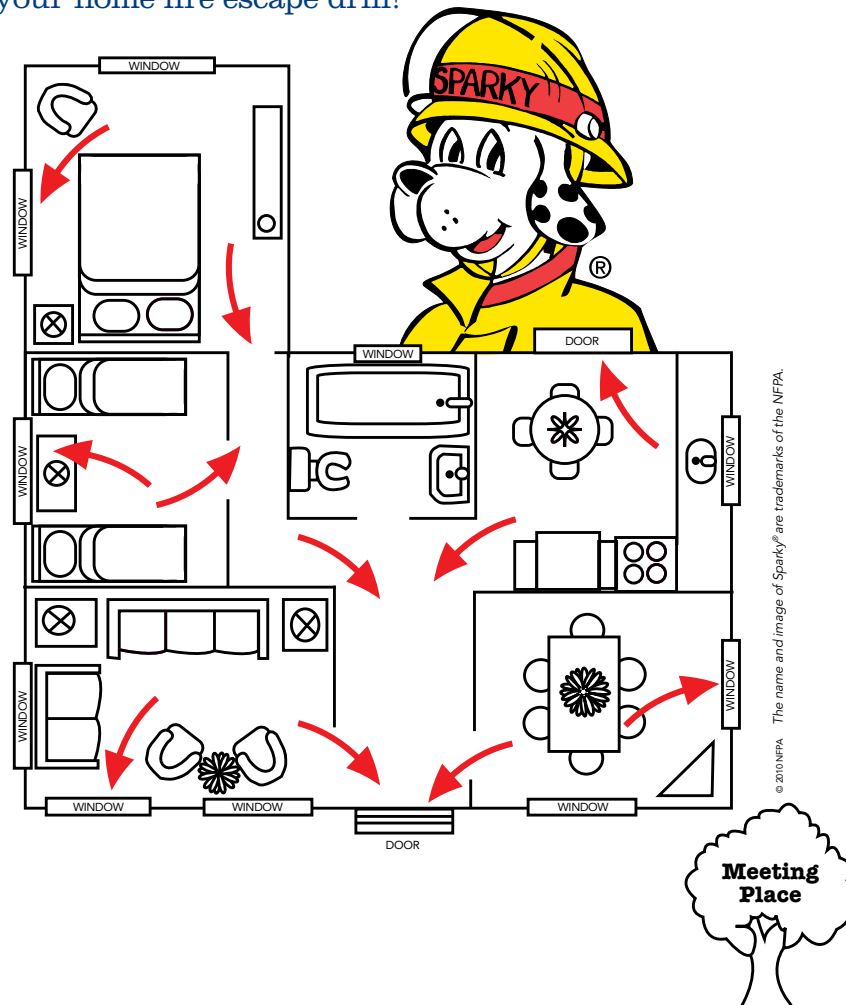
Sterling Heights Fire Department





How to Make a Home Fire Escape Plan

- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.
- Practice your home fire escape drill!

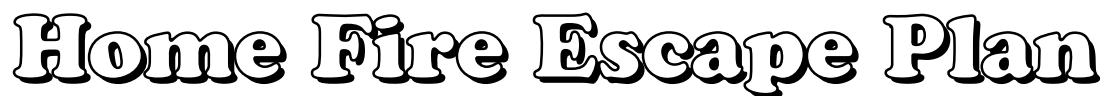


Make your own home fire escape plan on the next page.

— Keeping Your Community Safe with Home Fire Escape Drills —

NFPA • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169 • www.nfpa.org/education


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Memorize your **fire department's emergency phone number** and write it here: _____

Use the space below to create your home fire escape plan.

This image shows a full page of blank graph paper. The background is a very light gray, and it is covered by a precise grid of thin, dark gray horizontal and vertical lines. These lines intersect to form a series of small, identical squares across the entire surface of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all of the smoke alarms with . Smoke alarms should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet.
- Remember, practice your plan at least twice a year!



Check out **www.sparky.org** for fire safety games and activities.
Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

Grown-ups: Children don't always awake when the smoke alarm sounds. Know what your child will do before a fire occurs. Get more information on smoke alarms and escape planning at [**www.nfpa.org/factsheets**](http://www.nfpa.org/factsheets).

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

(Please check off each item as you complete them)

Smoke Alarms

- ☐ There is one smoke alarm on every level of the home and inside and outside each sleeping area
- ☐ Smoke Alarms are tested and cleaned monthly
- ☐ Smoke alarm batteries are changed as needed
- ☐ Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old

Cooking Safety

- ☐ Cooking area is free from items that can catch fire
- ☐ Kitchen stove hood is clean and vented to the outside
- ☐ Pots are not left unattended on the stove
- ☐ Combustible items are not stored on or in a cooking appliance
- ☐ A suitable fire extinguisher to control cooking fires is easily accessible

Electrical & Appliance Safety

- ☐ Electrical cords do not run under rugs
- ☐ Electrical cords are not frayed or cracked
- ☐ Circuit-protected, multi-prong adapters are used for additional outlets
- ☐ Large and small appliances are plugged directly into wall outlets
- ☐ Clothes dryer lint filter and venting system are clean
- ☐ Ensure the use of only UL Listed dryer venting components (not plastic)

Candle Safety

- ☐ Candles are in sturdy fire-proof containers that won't be tipped over
- ☐ All candles are extinguished before going to bed or leaving the room
- ☐ Children and pets are never left unattended with candles

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- ☐ Carbon monoxide alarms are located on each level of the home
- ☐ Carbon monoxide alarms are less than 7 years old

Smoking Safety

- ☐ Family members who smoke only buy fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside
- ☐ Matches and lighters are secured out of children's sight
- ☐ Ashtrays are large, deep and kept away from items that can catch fire
- ☐ Ashtrays are emptied into a container that will not burn

Heating Safety

- ☐ Chimney and furnace are cleaned and inspected yearly
- ☐ Furniture and other items that can catch fire are at least 3 feet from fireplaces, wall heaters, baseboards, and space heaters
- ☐ Fireplace and barbecue ashes are placed outdoors in a covered metal container at least 3 feet from anything that can catch fire
- ☐ Extension cords are never used with space heaters
- ☐ Heaters are approved by a national testing laboratory and have tip-over shut-off function

Home Escape Plan

- ☐ Have two ways out of each room
- ☐ Know to crawl low to the floor when escaping to avoid toxic smoke
- ☐ Know that once you're out of the home, stay out
- ☐ Know where to meet after the escape
- ☐ Meeting place should be near front of your home, so firefighters know you are out
- ☐ Practice your fire escape plan

TO ENTER: Complete your **Escape Plan** and **Safety Checklist** and fill in your information below.
You may send or drop off this *completed 2 page form* to the Sterling Heights Fire Department:

**Mail or
Drop off:** Sterling Heights Fire Department
41625 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3945

**Scan and
Email:** firedepartment@sterling-heights.net

DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 14

The Prize Drawing will be held on September 15th and the winner will be notified by phone and/or email. Prize will be awarded at the annual Fire Open House in October. Winner will be invited to attend to be awarded prize. If the winner cannot attend, they may pick up their prize at 41625 Ryan Road.

Name: _____

Family members: _____

Address: _____

Date of Program Completion: _____

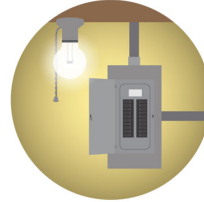
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Be fire smart

with **electricity** throughout your home.



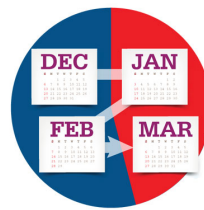
There are **more than 45,000** home electrical fires each year.



About **half** of these involve lighting equipment or home electrical wiring.



Home electrical fire deaths peak between **midnight and 6 a.m.**

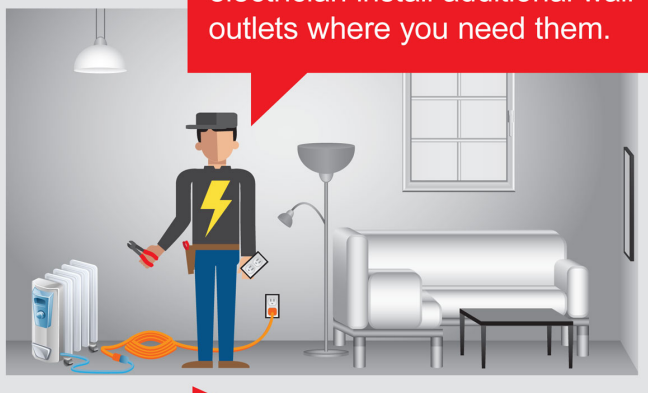


Peak months for electrical fire deaths are **December through March.**

Plug only **one** heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, space heater, or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.



Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them.



Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.

For more information about electrical fire safety, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.nfpa.org

U.S. Fire
Administration

